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Security Council

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Letter dated 24 April 2000 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the members of the Security Council have decided to send a mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The members of the Security Council have agreed on the terms of reference of the Security Council mission (see annex).

Following consultations with the members, it has been agreed that the composition of the mission is as follows:

United States of America (Ambassador Richard Holbrooke — Head of Mission

France (Ambassador Jean-David Levitte)

Mali (Ambassador Moctar Ouane)

Namibia (Ambassador Martin Andjaba)

Netherlands (Ambassador A. Peter van Walsum)

Tunisia (Ambassador Saïd Ben Mustapha)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Ambassador Jeremy Greenstock)

It is the intention of the mission to depart New York on 2 May 2000 with a planned return from Lusaka on 8 May 2000. To that end, I would be most grateful if appropriate officials could be advised in order to make the necessary arrangements for the mission.

(*Signed*) Robert R. **Fowler**
President of the Security Council

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Annex

Terms of reference for the Security Council mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region

1. The Security Council encourages the efforts of the parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement (S/1999/815) to fulfil their commitments and underlines the Council's dedication to the full implementation of the Agreement and relevant Council resolutions regarding the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

2. The Security Council considers that the full deployment of phase II of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) in adequate conditions of security, access and cooperation, as authorized under Council resolution 1291 (2000) of 24 February 2000, is a critical element of the international community's support for the peace process.

3. Concerned by developments in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since the signing of the Agreement, the Security Council mission is visiting the region to facilitate the parties' agreement on concrete ways to ensure the rapid and full implementation of the Agreement and of resolution 1291 (2000).

4. The mission will focus on the conditions necessary for the full deployment of MONUC including, *inter alia*: the need for strict adherence to the ceasefire, including cessation of the seizure of new territory and the re-supply of arms to the field; an adequate status-of-forces agreement; reliable guarantees of security and freedom of movement for United Nations personnel; the relocation of the Joint Military Commission (JMC) to Kinshasa and its establishment as a permanently sitting body; the development of the working relationship of MONUC and JMC; and concrete progress by all sides on the disengagement of forces, as agreed by the parties on 8 April 2000.

5. The mission will also emphasize: the need to strengthen the role of the Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese National Dialogue and his ability to organize and facilitate the Dialogue; the need to harmonize the Lusaka implementation timetable with the MONUC deployment schedule; the requirement to facilitate humanitarian assistance; and the need for early progress on a plan for the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and resettlement of armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

6. The mission will report back to the Security Council, at which time it will make recommendations for further Council actions, if appropriate. The report of the mission will focus on progress made on all aspects of the Agreement and the implementation of relevant Council resolutions regarding the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

7. The mission intends to meet representatives of all the signatories to the Agreement. It will ask President Chiluba to convene a meeting of the Heads of State signatories to the Lusaka Agreement.